

To: Gaffney, Kristeen[gaffney.kristeen@epa.gov]
Cc: Overmeyer, Patricia[Overmeyer.Patricia@epa.gov]; Heffernan, Daniel[Heffernan.Daniel@epa.gov]; Thomas, Christopher[Thomas.Christopher@epa.gov]; Stolle, Tom[Stolle.Tom@epa.gov]; Emeric-Ford, Noemi[Emeric-Ford.Noemi@epa.gov]; Morey, Debra[Morey.Debi@epa.gov]; Quinn, Megan[Quinn.Megan@epa.gov]; Lloyd, David[Lloyd.DavidR@epa.gov]; Cooper, GailAnn[Cooper.GailAnn@epa.gov]; Mahmud, Shahid[Mahmud.Shahid@epa.gov]; Miller, Johanna[Miller.Johanna@epa.gov]
From: Miullo, Nat
Sent: Thur 8/13/2015 12:32:26 PM
Subject: Re: 10-minute advisor: 5 PM Administrator McCarthy statement

Hi Kristine, all BF friends.

My 2 cents worth.

Great question and excellent mining legacy refresher and re-awareness topic to consider.

Know you all know this, that it varies depending on site specific conditions, extent of contamination and which pollutants are involved and in what form (water column, soils, sediments, etc.)

Often, the recommendations can be no limitations on normal activities, or minimal PPE requirements, reduce exposure and wash if in contact. But this is only the most general of scenarios.

All Regions have safety officers within regional offices, in the Emergency Response Programs and I imagine OEM/OSWER, HQ has someone on staff nationally. As well as toxicologists if the exposure and health impacts concerns and questions are of a more complex nature. IWBG if these specialists/experts were consulted in any material BF puts out. It may be possible existing materials could be updated?

I think the challenge, and most important thing to be prepared to address, is the "it depends" aspect on a specific site.

Most toxicologists will caution use of responses to inquiries or outreach material that use simple characterization responses, such as "it's safe to". That makes this a complicated task for doing broad brush FAQs or fact sheets.

Hope this helps. Take care.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 13, 2015, at 5:53 AM, "Gaffney, Kristeen" <gaffney.kristeen@epa.gov> wrote:

Do you think we should be concerned or doing anything special if our Brownfield grantees are cleaning up mining sites? In Region 3, it's just abandoned coal mines, we don't have

metal mines, but there is ongoing activity.

Kristeen Gaffney

Chief, Brownfields and Land Revitalization Branch

US EPA, Region 3

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Philadelphia, PA 19103

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From: Overmeyer, Patricia

Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 5:19 PM

To: Heffernan, Daniel; Miullo, Nat; Gaffney, Kristeen; Thomas, Christopher; Stolle, Tom; Emeric-Ford, Noemi

Cc: Morey, Debra; Quinn, Megan; Lloyd, David; Cooper, GailAnn

Subject: FW: 10-minute advisor: 5 PM Administrator McCarthy statement

FYI

Patricia Overmeyer

EPA Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization

202-566-2774

<image001.png>

From: "Daguillard, Robert" <Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov>

Date: August 12, 2015 at 4:49:10 PM EDT

To: AO OPA OMR 60 Minute Warning

<AO_OPA_OMR_60_Minute_Warning@epa.gov>

Subject: 10-minute advisor: 5 PM Administrator McCarthy statement

Contact:

press@epa.gov or 970-812-3351

Statement from EPA Administrator to Regional Administrators RE: ongoing field work at mines

EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy today sent the below directive to Regional Administrators regarding ongoing field work at mines:

"While we continue to investigate the root causes of last week's release of mining waste at the Gold King Mine in Colorado, we are instructing our Regions to immediately cease any field investigation work at mines including tailings facilities, unless there is imminent risk in a specific case. We are in the process of initiating an independent assessment by a sister federal agency or another external entity to examine the factors that led to last week's incident. Based on the outcome from that assessment, we will determine what actions may be necessary to avoid similar incidents at other sites. While we stand down on existing field investigations and assessments at these mining sites, we also are instructing our Regions to identify existing sites with similarities to the Gold King Mine site and to identify any immediate threats and consider appropriate response actions."

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Robert Daguillard

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